

OBSERVATIONS on the NEW CYDER-TAX, &c. by J. MASSIE.

NUMBER V.

IT will now be expedient to lay before the Landholders of England, an Account of the Product and Manufactures of Scotland, about the Time of the Union.

A Scheme of Scotland's Product and Manufactures, by Mr. John Spruel—inserted in his Account Current betwixt Scotland and England, printed at Edinburgh Anno 1705, and dedicated to John Duke of Argyll and the then Estates of the Parliament of Scotland.

1—One Hundred Thousand Fighting Men—If Necessity require, to serve by Land and Sea, and as brave Officers as any where, if encouraged.

2—Silver and Gold—With Brass and Copper, if digged for, and searched out.

3—LEAD MINES—Producing Lead-ore, and fined Bar-Lead, for our own Use and Export.

4—COALS—East and West, for our own Use and Export, and Peats or Turf where Coals are scarce.

5—Corn—Of all Sorts, as Barley, Wheat, Oats, Rye, Peas and Beans for our own Use and some for Export.

6—Horses—For our own Use at Home and for Export.

7—BLACK CATTLE—Producing Milk, Butter, Cheese, Tallow, Candles, tanned Leather, Salt-Beef, and Combs.

8—SHEEP—Hence Tallow, Candles; Skins produce Alom Leather, Gloves, Shamois; Wool, hence broad Cloth, Fingrines, Serges, Bays, Crapes, Tammiess, Glasgow Playds, and all Sorts of fine Woried Camblets, and other Stuffs and coarse Hats.

9—FLAX—Hence Linen Cloth, Holland, Cambric, Muslins, plain and striped, Calicoes, Dornix, Ticking, brown Linen for dyeing, or Buckram, and other Uses undyed, Cravats, Handkerchiefs, white Thread, and dyed for Taylors, and making Laces, or for Export, and for making Tape and Knitings.

10—Wild Skins—Such as Hart and Deer, Goat and Kid, Hares and Rabbits, Selch and Otters, Foxes, Dogs and Fulmarts, &c. Hence Gloves, fine Shamois, Marikin, and Hats, with some Wool and Muffs.

11—Birds—Black Cock, Heath Hen, Red Fowl, Partridges, Wood-Cock, and all Sorts of Land and Sea Fowl, for Game and Provision, in so much as scarce any Nation so plentiful.

12—Marble, white—In Quarries, with Veins of divers Colours—Marble, green—In Mackleods Lands of Ashen, with Veins of Red and other Colours in Sir Patrick Ogilvie of Boyus Lands near Bamff.

13—Fine Greek Stone—Calistone and Limestone, for Buildings, Monuments and other Uses.

14—Skelly or Slates—Quarries in the Isle of Bute, in Earl of Bute's Lands, and Laird of Kaimis; the latter the best; and in Sir Humphry Colquhoun's Lands in Lenoxshire and other Parts.

15—Fine blue Amethysts—In Viscount Stormont's Lands in Perthshire; and a Red Stone in the South, of which Mr. James Smith can inform; and many small Stones on the Banks of our Rivers and in the Earth; when cut and polished, are like Diamonds.

16—HEMP—Produces Sail-cloth, and Yarn to make Nets and Ropes for the Fishers.

Many great Woods of Oak—Hence crooked and other Timbers and Plank for Shipping, and for making Pipe and Barrel Staves, and the Bark for tanning Leather.

Many great Woods of Firr—In the North and West Highlands, for joisting, and Deals for Houses and for Beams, and for Masts for Shipping.

Walnut Trees—For any fine Work, and for finishing of fine Rooms, or Closets; also Elm Tree, Plain, Ath, Birch and various other barren Trees; as Ewe for making of Bows for Archers, and generally all other ordinary and fine Fruit Trees in Gardens and Orchards.

17—Rivers—SALMON—Finer and more abundant than in any Place in the World I know.

18—Small Fish—Such as Pike, Pearch, Trout, Eels, in Rivers and Lochs in so much as if salted might be exported.

Pearls—In most of our Waters where Salmon is taken.

19. 20—Seas and Lochs—HERRINGS, COD and LING—made in white and red—Fill our Lochs, and swim round the Island; far beyond and preferable to any I know in the World.

21—Oysters—Lobsters, Partens and Scate, Sturgeon, Turbot, Sol-fluke and others, Cat fish and Cockpadle, Whiteings, Haddock, small Cod, Lyths, Mackerel, Sparlings, Garvie Fish next to Anchovies.

22—Whales—Hence Sperma-ceti, Oil and Whalebone.

23—Ambergreece—and white Coral in Kintyre.

24—Wam-pum-pig—It's the Shells that passes in Africa, and in some Part of the Indies for Money, called in England Cowries.

Last of all is the Pearl of Price in the Gospel offered (and to be found) by a true settled Ministry in this Church, as it is now established by Law, which is preferable to all Things, and for which other Nations compared the Church of Scotland to Philadelphia.—So endeth the Scheme of good Master Spruel.—

NUMBER VI.

BY the foregoing Account of the Product and Manufactures of Scotland, about the Time of the Union, it is plain that the People thereof are possessed of the natural Means of carrying on, not only the Woollen Manufacture and Trade, but all or most of the other considerable Branches of Manufacture and Trade now established in England, for these require Supplies of Silk, Cotton, Fur, Iron, &c. from abroad, wherewith Scotland may also be supplied; and with respect to Wool in particular, Mr. Spruel, in Page 21 of his Account Current, &c. says, "there has been no little Money exported and paid for Wool into England, and this again exported into Holland, besides what is exported of our own [Scotch] Wool; in so much, I am credibly informed there is above 10,000*l.* Sterling worth lying in Holland unfold;" and in the same Page he complains of "their sending so much Wool to Holland, Stockholm, and France."

It likewise appears that the Scotch Woollen Manufactures had then made such a Progress as to admit of exporting Woollen Goods; for Mr. Spruel, after telling his Countrymen that Wool and Woollen Manufactures are the Things which enriched England, and throwing out some broad Hints about making such Woollen Goods as are exported from Hull, Colchester, Exeter and Tottenham, says, that Strangers abroad had complained to him of some faults in the making of Scotch Woollen Cloths, Stuffs and Stockings [Pages 20 and 21]; but the Forwardness of the Woollen and other Manufactures in Scotland about that Time, will best appear by the Smallness of the Trade then carried on between the Two Nations, and by the mercantile Imports from Scotland being about Three Times so much in Value as the mercantile English Exports to Scotland were; it will therefore be expedient to lay a State of those Matters before the Landholders of England.

Years.	Imported from Scotland.		Exported to Scotland.	
	<i>l.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
1697	102,291	5 4	73,203	6 1½
1698	124,835	1 11½	58,043	17 9
1699	86,309	19 1	66,303	15 8
1701	73,988	18 11½	56,802	2 2
1702	71,428	18 11½	58,688	2 2

To these Scotch Imports of about Ninety Thousand Pounds a Year, by Sea, there is to be added their other Product sent by Land, consisting of Black Cattle, Sheep, wrought Linens, &c. which, according to Mr. Spruel's Account, must have amounted in Value to much more than the Scotch Imports by Sea; for, in Page 6, he rates the yearly Sales of Black Cattle to England, at between Twenty-four and Thirty Thousand Head, besides Sheep; and, in Page 3, he supposes there were in England, Three Thousand Scotch Pedlars on Horseback, besides Three or Four Thousand of their Foot-Pedlars; but if only Two Thousand of those Pedlars were employed in the vending of Scotch Linens, Playds, Handkerchiefs, Thread, &c. and received One Hundred Pounds a Year per Man, upon an Average, it will amount to Two Hundred Thousand Pounds yearly; from which deduct 20,000 Pounds for the Expenses of those 2,000 Pedlars; 80,000 Pounds for English Merchandize sent to Scotland by Land, and for the Rents of Scotch Estates then expended in England; and the Sum yearly carried away into Scotland at that Time will be One Hundred Thousand Pounds Sterling, by that pedling Trade only.

So that upon the whole commercial Dealings with Scotland, this Nation then lost about 30,000*l.* a Year by the Maritime Trade; 40,000*l.* by their black Cattle and Sheep; and 100,000*l.* by their pedling of Linen, after deducting for Scotch Rents spent in England; which over Balances amount in all to One Hundred and Seventy Thousand Pounds Sterling per Annum; and this upon a Branch of Trade that did not take off more than about Eighty Thousand Pounds worth of English Merchandize yearly; although it might reasonably have been expected that Two Millions of People in Scotland would have consumed at least so much English Merchandize as was consumed by One Million of People in Ireland; but this was so far from being the Case, that during the Five Years beforementioned, the English Exports to Ireland yearly amounted to more than Three Times Eighty Thousand Pounds, upon an Average, as will appear by the following Account of Exports and Imports to and from that Kingdom.

Years.	Imported from Ireland.		Exported to Ireland.	
	<i>l.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
1697	219,540	18 4½	251,262	3 7
1698	333,968	9 5½	293,813	13 6½
1699	417,475	5 6	270,400	19 8
1701	285,390	18 1½	305,417	17 1½
1702	258,121	1 3	219,022	16 10

Here indeed there likewise is a Balance against England, but it amounts only to One Fifth Part so much yearly, as the Balance against this Nation, upon their commercial Dealings with Scotland, in the same Years amounted to; though it occasioned Three Times as great a Consumption of English Merchandize, as there then was in Scotland; without reckoning the further Advantages arising from Irish Rents expended in England, &c.

All which Matters and Things being duly considered, it must be allowed that Scotland affords a most inviting Prospect to such Woollen, Cotton, Silk, Leather, Fur, Metal, Paper, Glass, &c. Manufactures, as crushing Taxes, Distrust or Disquiet may at any Time drive out of England; and that both the King and Parliament of England were aware of, and attentive to, matters of this Sort, when English Taxations were only about Half what they now are, on the common Necessaries of Life, will evidently appear from certain Parliamentary Proceedings in the Reign of that consummate Statesman and General, King William the Third, of Glorious Memory.

NUMBER VII.

THE People of Scotland at that Time were not contented with gaining such large yearly Balances upon their Trade with England, and with an equal Freedom of Trade to all the other Countries in Europe, but at one and the same Time levelled a Blow against the East-India, African, and American Trades of this very Nation, from which they were every Year gaining such vast Advantages; and to make sure of their Mark, they did not stop at setting up an East-India, African, and American Company, but granted such Exemptions from Taxes, &c. to the Persons and Property therein employed, as mult in the End have ruined our Trade to those Countries, all which Matters the Landholders of England may see at large, in the following joint Address of both Houses of Parliament to King William, and his Majesty's Answer thereto; which are here reprinted verbatim from one of the copies then printed and published by Order of the House of Peers, dated 18 Dec. 1695.

The Humble ADDRESS of the Right Honourable the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons in Parliament Assembled.

Die Veneris 13 Decembris, 1695.

WE the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons in Parliament Assembled, having taken into our Consideration the State of the Trade of this Kingdom, Do find, That besides many other Disadvantages and Difficulties it now lies under, An Act of Parliament, that hath lately Received Your Majesties Royal Assent in Your Kingdom of Scotland, for Erecting a Company Trading to Africa, and the Indies, is likely to bring many great Prejudices and Mischiefs to all Your Majesties Subjects, that are Concerned in the Wealth or Trade of this Nation; and therefore in all Duty to Your Majesty, and the CARE WE OUGHT to have of THIS KINGDOM, we do humbly Represent to Your Majesty, that the said Act does Provide, "That all Ships, Vessels, Merchandize, Goods, and other Effects whatsoever belonging to that Company, shall be free from all manner of Restraints, or Prohibitions, and of all Customs, Taxes, Sesses, Supplies, or other Duties Imposed, or to be Imposed by Act of Parliament, or otherwise, for the Space of One and Twenty Years: And farther, That the said Company, whole Members, Officers, Servants, or others belonging thereto, shall be free both in their Persons, Estates and Goods Employed in the said Stock and Trade, from all manner of Taxes, Sesses, Supplies, Excises, Quartering of Soldiers Transient or Local, or Levying of Soldiers, or other Impositions whatsoever, during the Space of One and Twenty Years."

By reason of which great Advantages Granted to the Scotch East India Company, and the Duties and Difficulties that lie upon that Trade in England, a great Part of the Stock and Shipping of this Nation will be Carried thither; and by this means Scotland be made a Free Port for all East India Commodities; and consequently those several Places in Europe, which were Supplied from England, will be furnished from thence, much Cheaper than can be done by the English; and therefore this Nation will lose the Benefit of Supplying Foreign Parts with those Commodities; which hath always been a Great Article in the Balance of our Foreign Trade: Moreover, the said Commodities will unavoidably be brought by the Scotch into England, by Sea, both by Sea and Land, to the Vast Prejudice of the English Trade and Navigation, and to the great Detriment of Your Majesty in Your Customs. And when once that Nation shall have Settled themselves in Plantations in America, our Commerce in Tobacco, Sugar, Cotton, Wool, Skins, Masts, &c. will be utterly lost, because the Privileges of that Nation, Granted to them by this Act, are such, That that Kingdom must be the Magazine for all those Commodities, and the English Plantations and the Traffick thereof lost to us, and the Exportation of our own Manufactures yearly Decreased.

Besides these, and many other Obstructions that this Act will unavoidably bring to the general Trade of this Nation, "Another Clause in the said Act, whereby Your Majesty Promises to Interpose Your Authority to have Restitution, Reparation and Satisfaction, made for any Damage that may be done to any of the Ships, Goods, Merchandize, Persons, or other Effects whatsoever belonging to the said Company, and that upon the Publick Charge;" does seem to Engage Your Majesty to Employ the Shipping and Strength at Sea of this Nation, to Support this New Company, to the great Detriment even of this Kingdom.

All which great Prejudices, Inconveniencies and Mischiefs arising by the said Act, we in all Duty and Faithfulness lay before Your Majesty.

Matth. Johnson,
Cleric Parliamentor.

His Majesties most Gracious Answer to the Address of both Houses of Parliament, Presented to Him by them yesterday at Kensington.

I have been ill served in Scotland, but I hope some Remedies may be found to Prevent the Inconveniencies which may arise from this Act.

What will become of Half the Woollen Manufactures of England, if they are not totally relieved from this new Burthen of a Cyder Tax?—Will not the exempting of a SCOTCH East-India, African, and American Company from Taxes, and the laying of this Cyder-Tax upon OUR Woollen Manufactures, EQUALLY PROMOTE the carrying of a great Part of the STOCK and SHIPPING of this nation into Scotland?—And was not this new Cyder Tax laid upon our Woollen Manufactures, &c. under the Administration of a Scotch Minister?

[To be continued.]